

REDDITCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1969

R E D D I T C H U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year
1969

.... o O o

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor P. Y. Beddowes

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor Mrs J. M. Hadley.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:-

Councillor F. W. Threshie

Councillor C. Harris

Vice Chairman:-

Councillor J. B. Coleman

Committee Members

Councillor P. Y. Beddowes

Councillor E. J. T. Cole

Councillor J. B. Coleman

Councillor M. L. Hall

Councillor C. Harris

Councillor R. C. Henney

Councillor E. Jones

Councillor G. E. Parton

Councillor E. J. T. Quiney

Councillor Miss V. M. Ramsey

Councillor F. W. Threshie

Councillor S. O. A. Wall

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dr. D. R. McCauly, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.
(September 1968)

Medical Officer of Health

G. H. Champion, Cert. S.I.B.,
(Meat & Food Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.,
Inspector under the Shops Act)

Chief Public Health Inspector
Retired August 1969.

A. Summerfield, Cert. S.I.B.,
(Meat & Food Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.
Smoke Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.
Appointed Chief Public Health
Inspector August 1969.

F. M. Pocock, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.,
(Meat & Food Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.
Smoke Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.)

Additional Public Health Inspector
Appointed Deputy Chief Public Health
Inspector August 1969.

M. O. Tuddenham, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.,
(Meat & Food Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.)

Additional Public Health Inspector.

A. S. Campbell, M.R. San. A. (Scotland)

Technical Assistant

Mrs. P. Williams, M.A.P.H.I.,
(Meat & Food Inspector's Cert. of R.S.H.)

Additional Public Health Inspector.
Resigned April 1969.

R. Cartwright, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

Mrs M. M. Arnold - Clerk/Typist

Mrs K. E. Bough - Clerk/Typist

To the Chairman and Members of the
REDDITCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I now present my second Annual Report for the Urban District of Redditch in respect of the year ending 31st.December,1969.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population was 37,900. Since there had been a change of boundary during the year, this was a "weighted average" of the mid-year population as constituted before and after the change. However, since the figure was evolved, building has proceeded apace in the New Town and the present population is estimated to be around 40,000 (as of July, 1970).

There is a good deal to note of public health interest during the year both in the incidence of disease and its prevention.

The plans for the commencement and development of the fluoridation scheme as carried out by the Worcester County Council were announced during the year. Fluoridation actually commenced at the Wildmoor Station after the period covered by this report - in June 1970 - and this will supply part of Redditch, the remainder to be supplied in a phased programme. This is a subject which has occasioned much controversy and even acrimony in the past, but the consensus of opinion over a period of many years is that it is a most useful measure which considerably reduces dental decay, with the consequent improvement in general health which can be expected to result, without any risk to the consumer. The benefits of the scheme will of course take some time to materialise but we can confidently look forward to the good results of this long term investment for the future.

Measles vaccination under the County Council scheme received a set-back during the year. Owing to a batch of vaccine being withdrawn, a shortage resulted and supplies were severely restricted over a period of months. Hence the 1969 total of children immunised against measles was reduced to 406 as compared to 680 for the previous year. This was reflected in an increase in the notifications of measles for the year, although the total (129) was still considerably down on any annual total for many years prior to 1968 when measles vaccination was started, as reference to the table in Section 'C' of the Report will show. Since the period covered by the Report, full supplies of vaccine are again available and the numbers immunised in 1970 should be very satisfactory.

Of other infectious diseases, the incidence continues to be low and the absence of diphtheria and poliomyelitis over a period of many years continues. There were only three cases of infective jaundice compared with 17 last year. There were three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. One exception to the rule, however, was influenza the epidemic of which affected us quite severely this year resulting in quite a marked increase in the number of deaths from respiratory diseases including pneumonia, bronchitis and so on. Since the abortive 'flu epidemic of 1968, when the new strain of the virus first reached our shores from Hong Kong and the Far East, attacking us again in epidemic proportions in 1969, we have had, for the first time, an effective vaccine made specifically to immunise against a particular strain of the virus which was produced well in advance of the influenza epidemic. It is also now possible to forecast, with some accuracy, the particular year when an epidemic will take place. Armed with these two weapons, it may well be possible in the future to prevent or at any rate cut short a 'flu epidemic and one hopes that the vaccine will be available on a large scale and used in a widespread manner. Influenza is a disease which we could well do without, taking an annual toll, very high in epidemic years, especially of the elderly and those of otherwise poor health. The difficulties of prevention are very great in view of the very high infectivity, the short incubation of the disease in the person affected, and the emergence of new strains of the virus but, with the development of specific vaccines, earlier recognition of the emergence of these new strains and warning of an approaching epidemic, the outlook on the preventive side is very much brighter.

During the year a case of skin anthrax occurred which was contracted from the carcase of an infected cow at a 'Knacker's Yard'. This disease is now rare and it no longer deserves the sinister reputation which it once had. Once recognised, it can be rapidly treated and cured by antibiotics. In this instance, the diagnosis was made by laboratory examination within a very short time from the onset of the boil or postule and treatment resulted in a clearing up of the condition within a matter of weeks.


The question of 'carriers' or 'excretors' of food poisoning bacteria or salmonella, being people who have recovered from the disease but remain infectious for some time afterwards, is always a matter of some concern. Should these people be food handlers employed in butcher's or grocer's etc. the risk of passing on infection due to contamination of the food is quite considerable. One such case was dealt with under the Infectious Diseases Regulations which gives powers to prevent such cases from engaging in the occupation of food handling until cleared of infection.

The question of old people living alone who may be ill or require attention has come under much discussion and it has been decided to provide alarm systems where needed. In the course of the year I have had to deal with a case under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, being an old man, ailing and in a very poor condition, living alone in a new flat. The question also arises as to whether, as in this case, old and severely ill people should not be the subject of some medical advice before being installed in flats on their own.

I will now conclude by thanking the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year. In thanking the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Alan Summerfield and the staff for their loyal co-operation I would just like to add a word of welcome to Mr. Roger Cartwright who joined us as an Additional Public Health Inspector during the year.

D.R. McCaully,

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b3003291x>

SECTION A

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA

Area....	13,422	acres
Registrar General's Estimate of resident population mid 1968	37,900	
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1969	12,451	
Rateable Value	£1, 524, 073	
Sum represented by the penny rate	£6,150	

VITAL STATISTICS

This term in its public health usage, like the modern meaning is concerned with three dimensions. These dimensions are also expressed numerically, if not anatomically. They are the Birth Rate, the Death Rate and the Population of a given area. These 'Rates' are usefully compared in point of time with the rates of former years and in point of space with those of other areas, such as those for the country as a whole, for instance.

I will now summarise this by giving three short tables.

B I R T H R A T E (Live births per 1000 population)

BIRTH RATE for REDDITCH & for ENGLAND and WALES over the past five years					
Year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Redditch	20.70	19.93	18.00	17.56	16.2
England & Wales	18.10	17.1	17.2	16.9	16.3

The Rate for Redditch shows a small but steady decline over the past five years.

D E A T H R A T E (Deaths per 1000 of the population)

DEATH RATE for REDDITCH and for ENGLAND & WALES over the past five years					
Year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Redditch	12.69	11.31	11.44	10.3	11.3
England & Wales	11.3	11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9

This, with the exception of the Year 1969, when there was a change of boundary during that year, shows a small but steady decline for Redditch over the past five years. There was also a severe 'flu epidemic during this year.

P O P U L A T I O N - Registrar General's Estimate of the Population of Redditch over the past five years

Annual Increase

	1965	.....	.....	.....	36,620
160	1966	.....	.....	.....	36,780
120	1967	.....	.....	.....	36,900
180	1968	.....	.....	.....	37,080
820	1969	.....	.....	.....	37,900

We now enter a maze of complications beloved of statisticians if no-one else. "Illegitimate" births are now expressed as a percentage of total live births. The still-births are shown as the number of still-births per 1,000 total live and still-births. Deaths are sub-divided into deaths at all ages as expressed by the common or garden Death Rate or number of deaths per 1,000 of the population, and deaths of infants as expressed by the infant mortality rate or number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births. In addition, infant deaths are sub-divided into four categories according to the age which they had attained at death and expressed by the various other infant death rates.

For those wishing to enter this labyrinth, details are given in the appendix. I would only point out, however, that in the case of the various infant death rates, the numbers are too small for any firm statistical conclusion to be drawn for comparison of these rates with that of the Country generally.

SECTION BGENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES - Clinic & Treatment Services

CLINIC	SITUATION	TIME OF HOLDING
Redditch Infant Welfare Centre	Old Vicarage Bromsgrove Road	Tuesday 2.0p.m.
Batchley Estate Infant Welfare Centre	Church Hall Batchley Estate	2nd & 4th Wednesday 2.0p.m.
Prospect Road (Abbeydale) Infant Welfare Centre	Brook Street Arrow Social Club	2nd & 4th Thursday 2.0p.m.
Webheath Infant Welfare Centre	Village Hall Webheath	3rd Wednesday 2.0p.m.
Astwood Bank Infant Welfare Centre	Church Hall Astwood Bank	2nd & 4th Monday 2.30p.m.
Greenlands Estate Infant Welfare Centre	Church Hall Greenlands	Tuesday 2.0p.m.
Headless Cross Infant Welfare Centre	Methodist Hall Headless Cross	1st & 3rd Monday 2.0p.m.
Crabbs Cross Infant Welfare Centre	Star & Garter Reception Room, Crabbs Cross.	3rd Friday 2.0p.m.
Feckenham Infant Welfare Centre	Village Hall Feckenham	1st Wednesday 2.0p.m.
School Clinic	Old Vicarage	1st. Thursday 9.30a.m
Audiometrical Clinic	Old Vicarage	Mondays by appointment
Cervical Cytology Clinic	" "	3rd Friday, by appointment
Chiropody Clinic	" "	By appointment. Wednesday afternoon.
Dental Clinic	Old Vicarage	By appointment daily.
Speech Therapist Clinic	" "	All day Wednesday & Thursday.
Opthalmic Clinic	Old Vicarage	Tuesday Morning.
Family Planning Clinic	" "	Friday by appointment.
Relaxation & Mothercraft	" "	Thursday afternoon.
Children's Department	Old Vicarage	Wednesday 10a.m.-12a.m.
Home Help Supervisor	" "	Daily. Monday to Friday.
Family & Social Welfare Association.	" "	Monday 10.30a.m. & 5.30pm

MIDWIFERY & HOME NURSING

Three agencies provide the midwifery services for the district:-

1. The family doctor - ante-natal & post-natal care and home confinements.
2. The County Council - Ante-natal clinics and district midwives.
3. The Regional Hospital Board - hospitals for delivery and treatment.

The County Council provide nurse-midwives who attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Council continued to subscribe to the Council for Health Education whose services were utilised during the year.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is now organised by the County Council and is run locally through an office at the Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road, under an area organiser.

SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES are run by the County Council and the local offices are at Birmingham Road, Bromsgrove.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The W.V.S. continued to provide this excellent service, and from the centre in Redditch a total of 13,409 meals were served during the year, an increase on last year of 391.

The centre at Astwood Bank also served a total of approximately 1,649 meals during the year.

PLAYGROUPS

There are a considerable number of playgroups privately organised throughout the district.

HEALTH VISITING

The County Council continue to provide a Health Visiting service. The Health Visitors serving the district are:-

Miss B.P.Cramp, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Miss V.J.Crow, S.R.N., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Miss D.H.Edwards, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., F.R.N., 152 Heathfield Road.
Mrs Freeling, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Mrs I.Lowe, R.G.N., S.R.F.N., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Miss M.Pike, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Miss A.Potter, S.R.N., Q.I.D.N.S., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Miss Stanley, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Mrs.Wood, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.
Miss Britton, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Old Vicarage, Bromsgrove Road.

SCHOOL HEALTH

The County Council continue to provide an extensive school health service; School Medical Officers carried out inspections of children and regular Minor Ailment Clinics were held at the Old Vicarage Clinic, Bromsgrove Road. Specialist, Ophthalmic and Orthopaedic Clinics were also held. A full time School Dental Officer was available.

SMALLPOX & POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION, DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS & MEASLES IMMUNISATION

The County Council continued to provide this service.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological and virological investigations were carried out for the department by Worcester Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service. Special investigations were carried out by the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale and chemical analyses by the County Laboratory, Worcester.

HOSPITALS

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:-

- | | | |
|--|-------|---|
| 1. Infectious Diseases | | Hayley Green Isolation Hospital,
Halesowen.
Little Bromwich Fever Hospital.
Newtown Isolation Hospital, Worcester. |
| 2. Maternity | | Bromsgrove General Hospital.
Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital,
Stourbridge.
Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital,
Stourport.
Avonside Hospital, Evesham. |
| 3. General Medical & Surgical Cases... | | Smallwood Hospital, Redditch.
Bromsgrove General Hospital.
Royal Infirmary, Worcester.
Various Birmingham hospitals, including
The Birmingham Accident Hospital;
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. |
| 4. Childrens' Diseases..... | | Childrens' Hospital, Birmingham. |
| 5. Aged Chronic Sick..... | | Bromsgrove General Hospital.
Avonside Hospital, Evesham.
Blakebrook Hospital, Kidderminster. |
| 6. Venereal Diseases..... | | The General Hospital, Birmingham.
Worcester Royal Infirmary. |
| 7. Mental Illnesses..... | | Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital,
Bromsgrove.
All Saints Hospital, Birmingham. |

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified over the last five years:

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Measles	265	388	507	75*	129
Whooping Cough	3	25	8	43	-
Scarlet Fever	11	9	3	10	15
Dysentery	5	5	3	12	15
Acute Pneumonia	6	9	9	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-
Influenzal Pneumonia	-	-	-	3	-

*Note: Measles vaccination commenced in May 1968.

MEASLES: Cases notified in 1969 showing age incidence.

<u>0-1yr</u>	<u>1-2</u>	<u>2-3</u>	<u>3-4</u>	<u>4-5</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
9	13	23	16	24	41	-	129

TUBERCULOSIS: Incidence and numbers of deaths during the past 5 years.

Year	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Respiratory	Non Respiratory	Respiratory	Non Respiratory
1965	11	5	0	0
1966	5	0	0	0
1967	8	0	2	1
1968	3	2	0	0
1969	3	0	0	1

IMMUNISATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SMALLPOX: Number of persons vaccinated during 1969.

Age at Vaccination	Under 1year	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 years	TOTAL
Primary Vaccination:	3	286	154	32	495
Re-vaccination:	-	-	-	53	53

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS & POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

The number of children who received a primary course of immunisation during 1969 was as follows:-

Triple Antigen (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough combined) plus oral vaccine.....	390
Diphtheria only	-
Tetanus only	226
Diphtheria & Tetanus combined, plus oral vaccine.....	34

Re-inforcing doses given:

Triple Antigen	304
Diphtheria	-
Tetanus	176
Diphtheria & Tetanus combined	576
Polio	1056

MEASLES: Number of children completing Primary Courses in the year ending December 1969

<u>Year of Birth:</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1962-65</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	109	121	63	113	406

The number of measles vaccinations was down on last year's total - 406 compared to 680 - owing to the withdrawal of one batch of measles vaccine and consequent shortage of vaccine supplies for a period of months. This was reflected in an increase in measles notifications over the previous year. The total, however, - 129 was still much lower than any year prior to the commencement of measles vaccination in May 1968, as a glance at the table will show.

TABLE 1 - CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE REDDITCH URBAN DISTRICT IN 1969

CAUSES OF DEATH	M	F	TOTAL
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	1	1
Other Tuberculosis, including late effects	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity (Mouth)etc.....	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	7	14
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	3	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung bronchus	12	2	14
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	9	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	5	-	5
Other Malignant Neoplasms	9	6	15
Benign & Unspecified Neoplasms	-	2	2
Anaemias	1	1	2
Mental Disorders	1	-	1
Other diseases of Nervous System	1	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	-	2
Hypertensive Disease	1	4	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	51	30	81
Other forms of heart disease	10	14	24
Cerebrovascular disease	13	32	45
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	9	11
Influenza	3	-	3
Pneumonia	15	12	27
Bronchitis & Emphysema	29	7	36
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	2
Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
Intestinal obstruction & hernia	2	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system.....	2	2	4
Nephritis & Nephrosis	3	2	5
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	-	1	1
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	-	1	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	3	2	5
Birth Injury, difficult labour	3	2	5
Other causes of peri-natal mortality	1	3	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	3	10
All other accidents	3	3	6
Suicide & self-inflicted injuries	1	2	3
All other External Causes.....	-	1	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES.	193	171	364

TABLE 2

CAUSES OF DEATH IN REDDITCH URBAN DISTRICT FOR YEAR 1969, SHOWING AGE INCIDENCE

TOTAL ALL AGES	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	A G E I N Y E A R S									
			1+	5+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	70 & over	
Enteritis & other diarrhoeal diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other tuberculosis, including late effects	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity(Mouth)etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other malignant neoplasms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Benign & unspecified neoplasms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Anaemias	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mental Disorders	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other diseases of Nervous System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other forms of heart disease	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Cerebrovascular disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Other diseases of circulatory system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Pneumonia	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bronchitis & Emphysema	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Other diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Peptic Ulcer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Intestinal obstruction & hernia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other diseases of Digestive System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

TABLE 2 continued.

TOTAL ALL AGES	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	A G E I N Y E A R S								
			1+	5+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	75 & over
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	4	1
All other accidents	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	3
Suicide & self-inflicted injuries	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
All other external causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES											

TABLE 3

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN NUMERICAL ORDER OF FREQUENCY
(Last year's totals shown in brackets)

	Total Number	M	F
1. Heart Disease	<u>112</u> (118)	64	48
Broken down as follows:-			
Coronary Thrombosis	81	51	30
Hypertension	5	1	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	2	-
Other forms	24	10	14
2. Malignant Neoplasms or Growths	<u>68</u> (65)	38	30
- (Cancer).			
Broken down as follows:-			
Stomach	14	7	7
Lung	14	12	2
Breast	9	-	9
Uterus (Womb)	2	-	2
Prostate	5	5	-
Buccal Cavity (Mouth)	1	1	-
Oesophagus	1	-	1
Intestine	6	3	3
Larynx	1	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	15	9	6
Respiratory Diseases	<u>68</u> (38)	47	21
Broken down as follows:-			
Bronchitis & Emphysema	36	29	7
Pneumonia	27	15	12
Influenza	3	3	-
Others	2	-	2
3. Cerebro-vascular Disease -	<u>45</u> (40)	13	32
"Strokes", Apoplexy, etc			
4. Accidents	16 (11)	10	6
Broken down as follows:-			
Motor Vehicle Accidents	10	7	3
All other accidents	6	3	3
5. Congenital Anomalies,	<u>14</u> (11)	7	7
Birth injury and other			
causes of death within			
the first week of life.			

NOTE:- There has been quite a marked increase in deaths due to Respiratory Disease including pneumonia, influenza, influenza and bronchitis and this is attributable to the severe influenza epidemic.

Deaths due to accidents have also increased substantially.

TABLE 4

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS (Deaths within the first year)

Congenital Anomalies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Birth Injury and Difficult Labour	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other causes of death within the first week (peri-natal mortality)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Diseases of Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue	...	...	...	...	...	1

;

№	Год	№	Год	№	Год	№	Год
1	1910	2	1911	3	1912	4	1913
5	1914	6	1915	7	1916	8	1917
9	1918	10	1919	11	1920	12	1921
13	1922	14	1923	15	1924	16	1925
17	1926	18	1927	19	1928	20	1929
21	1930	22	1931	23	1932	24	1933
25	1934	26	1935	27	1936	28	1937
29	1938	30	1939	31	1940	32	1941
33	1942	34	1943	35	1944	36	1945
37	1946	38	1947	39	1948	40	1949
41	1950	42	1951	43	1952	44	1953
45	1954	46	1955	47	1956	48	1957
49	1958	50	1959	51	1960	52	1961
53	1962	54	1963	55	1964	56	1965
57	1966	58	1967	59	1968	60	1969
61	1970	62	1971	63	1972	64	1973
65	1974	66	1975	67	1976	68	1977
69	1978	70	1979	71	1980	72	1981
73	1982	74	1983	75	1984	76	1985
77	1986	78	1987	79	1988	80	1989
81	1990	82	1991	83	1992	84	1993
85	1994	86	1995	87	1996	88	1997
89	1998	90	1999	91	2000	92	2001
93	2002	94	2003	95	2004	96	2005
97	2006	98	2007	99	2008	100	2009
101	2010	102	2011	103	2012	104	2013
105	2014	106	2015	107	2016	108	2017
109	2018	110	2019	111	2020	112	2021
113	2022	114	2023	115	2024	116	2025
117	2026	118	2027	119	2028	120	2029
121	2030	122	2031	123	2032	124	2033
125	2034	126	2035	127	2036	128	2037
129	2038	130	2039	131	2040	132	2041
133	2042	134	2043	135	2044	136	2045
137	2046	138	2047	139	2048	140	2049
141	2050	142	2051	143	2052	144	2053
145	2054	146	2055	147	2056	148	2057
149	2058	150	2059	151	2060	152	2061
153	2062	154	2063	155	2064	156	2065
157	2066	158	2067	159	2068	160	2069
161	2070	162	2071	163	2072	164	2073
165	2074	166	2075	167	2076	168	2077
169	2078	170	2079	171	2080	172	2081
173	2082	174	2083	175	2084	176	2085
177	2086	178	2087	179	2088	180	2089
181	2090	182	2091	183	2092	184	2093
185	2094	186	2095	187	2096	188	2097
189	2098	190	2099	191	2100	192	2101
193	2102	194	2103	195	2104	196	2105
197	2106	198	2107	199	21		

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨ ⑩ ⑪ ⑫ ⑬ ⑭ ⑮ ⑯ ⑰ ⑱ ⑲ ⑳ ㉑ ㉒ ㉓ ㉔ ㉕ ㉖ ㉗ ㉘ ㉙ ㉚ ㉛ ㉜ ㉝ ㉞ ㉟ ㊱ ㊲ ㊳ ㊴ ㊵ ㊶ ㊷ ㊸ ㊹ ㊺ ㊻ ㊼ ㊽ ㊾ ㊿

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

	M	F	Total	Rates per 1,000 estimated population	
				Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
Legitimate	322	273	595		
Illegitimate	18	19	37		
	<u>340</u>	<u>292</u>	<u>632</u>	16.2	16.3

The corrected birth rate is 16.2
(The crude rate being 16.7 and the area comparability factor 0.97)

Illegitimate births as a percentage of all live births is 6% as compared to England & Wales 8%.

STILL BIRTHS

	M	F	Total	Rates per 1,000 live and still births	
				Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
Legitimate	3	6	9		
Illegitimate	3	1	4		
	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>	20	13

DEATHS

DEATHS - ALL AGES.

M	F	Total	Rates per 1,000 estimated population	
			Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
193	171	364	11.3 (corrected)	11.9

The Corrected Death Rate is 11.3
(The crude death rate being 9.6 and the area comparability factor 1.18).

INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under 1 year of age per 1000 related live births)
..)

	M	F	Total	Rates per 1000 related live births	
				Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
Legitimate	9	6	15	25	17
Illegitimate	--	1	1	27	25
TOTAL	9	7	16	25	18

NEONATAL MORTALITY (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 live births)

	M	F	Total	Rates per 1000 live births	
				Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
Legitimate	7	5	12		
Illegitimate	--	1	1		
TOTAL	7	6	13	21	12

EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY (Deaths under 1 week per 1000 live births)

	M	F	Total	Rates per 1000 live births	
				Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
Legitimate	5	5	10		
Illegitimate	--	1	1		
TOTAL	5	6	11	17	10

PERINATAL MORTALITY (Still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 live and still-births).

	M	F	Total	Rates per 1000 live and still-births	
				Redditch U.D.C.	England & Wales
Legitimate	8	11	19		
Illegitimate	3	2	5		
TOTAL	11	13	24	37	23

H O U S I N G

The housing figures for the year 1969 are as follows:-

Number of houses built by Council during year	41
Number of houses built by private enterprise	30
Number of houses under construction by Council	74
Number of houses under construction by private enterprise...	62
Number of houses under construction by Redditch Development Corporation.....	52
Number of houses built by Redditch Development Corporation..	699
Total number of post-war Council Houses built	2,756

POPULATION IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF INHABITED DWELLINGS:

Year	Population	Increase or decrease in population	Natural Increase (Births less deaths)	Increase by Immigrat- ion	Units of Accomodat- ion.	Increase in units of accomo- dation.	No. of persons per unit of acc.
1960	34,440	560	255	305	10,763	198	3.21
1961	34,077	363	328	---	11,042	279	3.08
1962	34,780	703	312	391	11,408	366	3.04
1963	34,430	650	303	347	11,716	308	3.02
1964	35,960	530	397	133	11,885	169	3.02
1965	36,620	660	386	274	11,973	88	3.06
1966	36,780	166	391	-231	12,083	110	3.04
1967	36,900	120	283	-163	12,123	40	3.04
1968	37,080	180	325	-145	12,451	328	3.00
1969	37,900	820	268	+552	13,220	769	2.86

MEDICAL PRIORITIES

Eight people were granted housing priority on medical grounds for the following reasons:-

Heart Disease.....	3
Chest Disease.....	2
Asthma & Eczema.....	1
Arthritis.....	1
Aged & infirm.....	1
	<u>8</u>

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1969.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Redditch Urban District Council.

Madam Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

There is a prayer which, if I have quoted aright, goes "Forgive us for not doing those things we should have done and for doing those things we should not have done".

With that in mind I present my first Annual report. The inspections carried out during the year fall short of those for last year but unfortunately we have for nine months of the year been one inspector under establishment, being unable to fill the post vacated by Mrs. Williams who with her husband emigrated to Canada. Last August saw the retirement of Mr. Champion after 30 years as Chief Public Health Inspector with the Authority. Your officers promoted from within the staff have tried to match his experience at least with enthusiasm.

A marked increase, however, has been noted in work of an advisory nature. With the proposed erection of new shops, offices, houses and factories, advice has been sought on subjects ranging from work required in order that premises conform to the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and Food Hygiene Regulations, to problems for the reduction of expected noise levels from new factories.

The Council has pursued a policy of clearance of unfit houses as expediently as possible and, with the coming into force of the Housing Act, 1969, has also implemented a policy to declare general Improvement Areas. It is fitting, with the expansion of the District under the Development Corporation, that as well as the erection of new houses by the Local Authority, the older parts of the town are to be given a new lease of life, by providing encouragement to owners, to improve their houses by the aid of Improvement Grants, by improving the environment.

From knowledge gained during housing inspections, the need for a comprehensive survey of the whole of the Urban District becomes apparent. This is required to give an appraisal of our housing stock. We need to know all houses that are unfit and will have to be cleared; houses capable of improvement as well as the number of houses which are in multi-occupation. This of course will be a large undertaking and very time-consuming. I am hopeful that 1970 will see the beginning of this undertaking, but this will of course depend on the pressure of other work and I am mindful that this work, with the now rapid expansion of the Urban District, is ever increasing.

Inspection of food premises continues to play a major part in the work of the Department and your officers have been very active participants in plans to provide a new market especially as they affect the food traders.

There were 7,641 visits made during the year involving general complaints, housing, food premises, cafes, shops, offices, factories, canteens, restaurants, licenced premises, animal establishments, drainage, water supplies, ice cream sampling, infestation, rodent control and miscellaneous enquiries.

The report that follows gives details of the work carried out by your officers during 1969 and I would like to thank all members of the staff, both inspectorate and clerical, for the support given to me during the past months.

A. Summerfield,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

Demolition and Clearance of Houses

Progress continues to be made to clear unfit houses in the Urban District and the following table sets out the action taken:-

<u>Clearance Area</u>	<u>Number of houses</u>		
23, 25, 27 & 29 Birchfield Road.	4		
<u>Individual Unfit</u>			
54, Foregate Street, Astwood Bank.	1	Closing Order.	
8, Bates Hill.	1	"	"
1, Queen Street.	1	"	"
5, Margaret Place, Queen Street.	1	"	"
24, Clive Road.	1	"	"
Flat 3, The Gables.	1	"	"
61, Evesham Road.	1	"	"
6, 8 & 10 Chapel Rd.,Astwood Bank.	3	Demolition Order.	
544, 546, 548, 550 Evesham Rd.,Crabbs Cross.	4	"	"
88, Ipsley Street.	1	"	"
93 & 95 Birchfield Road.	2	"	"
6, High Street, Astwood Bank.	1	"	"
24, 26 & 28 Prospect Hill.	3	"	"
9, 11, 13 & 15 Windsor Street.	4	"	"
50,52,54,56,58,60,62,65,66,68,70,72 & 74 Albert Street.	13	"	"
232, Birchfield Road.	1	"	"
17, 19 & 21 Birchfield Road.	3	"	"
Total:-		46 houses	

During the year 41 houses were demolished.

Improvement of Houses

The other side of the coin to clearance of unfit houses is of course Improvement and the Government has pursued its policy of encouraging owners and owner/occupiers to improve their property, so adding to the stock of fit houses and preserving property that might well within a few years otherwise fall into the category of unfit.

To this end the Government this year increased the maximum grant payable for a standard grant (for the provision of a bathroom) to £450 and for a discretionary grant (for overall improvement of the house) to £1,000 and brought into the works allowable for grant, that of repairs and replacements incidental to improvements.

During 1969 29 applications have been received for Improvement grants, 27 for Standard grants and 2 for Discretionary grants. The total amount paid as grant being £7,641.00, as £6,512 for Standard grant and £1,129 for Discretionary grant.

A further feature to encourage owners to improve their houses can be found in the Housing Act,1969, whereby a Local Authority can declare areas of housing to be General Improvement Areas. In such an area the Local Authority would hope to encourage improvement of houses by themselves improving the environment and receiving an exchequer contribution for so doing. There is no compulsory power given to the Local Authority to require owners to improve their property but it is hoped that by seeing an improvement in the environment they will be encouraged to do so.

The Council decided to adopt a policy of declaring General Improvement Areas and four areas were selected for further appraisal. One such area is St. George's Road/Grange Road containing 6 houses, and a detailed survey is being carried out to determine whether or not to recommend this area to be declared a General Improvement Area.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses

1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (either under Public Health Acts for statutory defects or under Housing Acts for disrepair	...	70
2. Informal notices served	...	35
3. Statutory notices served	...	32
4. Informal notices complied	...	20
5. Statutory notices complied	...	16
Houses in which defects were remedied after service of:-		
Informal Notices	...	35
Statutory Notices	...	12

It is to the credit of owners and agents alike that we have not found it necessary to take legal action in order to get the defects remedied.

Houses in Multi-Occupation

No detailed survey has yet been carried out in the district, due to staffing difficulties, to ascertain how many houses are let in multi-occupation, although a cursory survey had revealed a total of 83. During the year 57 inspections were made.

It was found necessary to take enforcement action against only one landlord and a Management Order (under Section 12 Housing Act, 1961) and a Direction Order (under Section 19) were served.

Qualification Certificates

The Housing Act, 1969, introduced legislation whereby a landlord can apply to the Rent Officer for an increase to be made to the rent of his property if it is rent controlled. When doing this he must produce a "qualification certificate". Such a certificate must be obtained from the Local Authority and, before it can be granted, the house must satisfy three conditions:-

- 1) the house must have the five standard amenities (bath, lavatory basin, hot and cold water supply, sink and internal w.c);
- 2) the house must be in good repair, having regard to its age, character and locality, and
- 3) must be in all other respects fit for human habitation.

During the four months in 1969 the Act was in force, two applications were received for Qualification Certificates and both were refused as the houses did not satisfy the conditions.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Act

The department continues to inspect all private houses for which the Council receives mortgage applications. Inspections are carried out to determine the state of repair of the property, to ascertain its suitability for an improvement grant and to give an estimate as to the 'life' of the property. During the year 28 inspections and re-inspections were made for 19 applications.

FOOD HYGIENE

There are no slaughterhouses in the Urban District. There is one large factory specialising in meat products. This firm maintains its own laboratory where a constant check is kept on the quality of its food products. Samples are also taken from time to time by this department for bacterial examination, as are samples taken from the well water used for cooling purposes and cleaning down.

As the town expands so the number of food premises increases. There are now 434 food premises in the area and details of these and inspections carried out are as follows:-

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Inspections</u> <u>made.</u>
Markets (food stalls)	...	1
Bakehouses	...	2
Confectioners	...	27
Butchers	...	30
Grocers & greengrocers (including food stalls)	...	128
Fishmongers	...	4
Fried Fish Shops	...	12
Restaurants & Cafes	...	10
Factory & School Canteens	...	55
Ice Cream Vendors & Manufacturers	...	105
Licensed Premises (including Clubs)	...	60
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	434	710
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Condemned Food

The following is a list of foodstuffs surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

Meat	...	162 lbs
Tinned Meats	...	79 tins
Rabbits	...	3
Bacon	...	3 lbs
Fish	...	75 lbs
Tomatoes	...	118 tins
Soup	...	43 "
Fruit	...	183 "
Vegetables	...	103 "
Preserves	...	3 "
Fish	...	19 "
Cream	...	6 "
Mineral Waters	...	7 "
Baby Food	...	1 "
Puddings	...	26 "
Creamed Rice	...	2 "
Butter	...	1 lb.
Steak & Kidney Pies	...	6 lbs.
Pasties	...	2
Sponge Mixture	...	7
Jelly Mixture	...	1
<u>Frozen Foods:-</u>		
Fish	...	62 packets
Vegetables	...	60 "
Meat products	...	61 "

the following is a list of the names of the persons who have been
responsible for the same.

Food Complaints, 1969.

A total of 30 complaints was investigated.

Food involved as follows:-

Bread & Confectionery	-	10
Meat Products	-	10
Canned Goods	-	5
Milk	-	2
Others	-	3

The complaints concerned:-

Foreign bodies in 13 cases

Mould in 8 "

Abnormal odours or tastes or putrefaction in 7 cases

Insects 2

10 cases were referred to the Committee for their consideration.

Warning letters were sent in 7 of the cases and prosecutions taken in the other 3.

Fines totalled £60 and costs.

The other 20 cases were dealt with informally with either the manufacturer or the retailer.

Details of legal proceedings taken:-

Article of food.	Nature of Complaint	Result of Legal Proceedings.
1 lb. bag of Self-raising flour.	Infestation of live larvae of <i>Ptinus Tectus</i> (Australian Spider Beetle)	£15 fine
1 pint bottle of pasteurised milk	Slug in bottle	£15 fine
Sliced loaf	Cigarette end in crust of loaf	£30 fine and £5.5.0 costs

Ice Cream

Manufacturers' premises - 2 premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream (cold mix).

Vendor's premises - 105 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream.

During the year 8 applications for registration of premises for the sale of pre-packed ice cream were approved.

Routine inspections of both types of premises were carried out.

Sampling

i) Bacteriological Samples

There are four Ministry provisional grades for ice cream. Grades 1 & 2 are satisfactory and Grades 3 & 4 unsatisfactory. 11 samples were taken, 10 were satisfactory. A further sample was taken of the one unsatisfactory sample and this proved satisfactory.

ii) Chemical Samples

The minimum chemical standard for ice cream is 5% fat and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ % solids not fat. The 11 chemical samples taken were of a satisfactory standard.

Food & Drugs Act.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The following table gives details of the contraventions found and remedied with regard to the requirements to food premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

<u>Regulation</u>	<u>Contraventions</u>	
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
6 Cleanliness of Equipment	7	5
8 Risk of Contamination	3	2
14 Sanitary Accommodation	2	2
15 Water Supply	6	4
16 Wash-hand basin	3	2
17 First Aid Material	8	5
18 Accommodation for Clothing	3	1
19 Sinks	4	2
16 &		
19 Soap & Towels	5	3
20 Lighting	4	2
21 Ventilation	1	1
23 Cleanliness & Repair	25	18
24 Accumulation of Refuse	6	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	77	51
	<hr/>	<hr/>

CLEAN AIR

There are no smoke control areas in the Urban District but all new houses built by the Local Authority and the New Town Development Corporation are equipped to burn either oil, gas or electricity. It has been noticed that an increasing number of householders are changing of their own accord from burning bituminous coal to smokeless fuels, with the emphasis on gas.

There have been few complaints as to smoke nuisances - they have been mostly confined to garden bonfires. 6 complaints were received of dark smoke emitted from factory chimneys. These complaints were investigated and as a result of informal action these nuisances were abated.

Section 6 of the Clean Air Act requires that approval must be given by the Local Authority to any firm proposing to erect a chimney as to the height of that chimney. This is to provide for effective dispersal of pollutants, mainly sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere. The calculations are based on the fuel to be used, the rate of burning, type of furnace, sulphur content of the fuel, height of building and locality of the premises.

During the year 15 applications were received and were approved with or without modification.

NOISE ABATEMENT

During the year 14 complaints were received of noise nuisances. 6 concerned industrial premises, due to noisy machinery or noise from exhaust fans, and after informal action these faults were remedied.

2 complaints were received of noise from Commercial premises and 8 of noise from "Pop Groups" or noisy neighbours. Both of the complaints of commercial premises were dealt with satisfactorily; one of noise from a "Pop Group" and 4 of the noisy neighbours complaints were found to be unjustified under the Noise Abatement Act. In the other case of noise from a "Pop Group" a satisfactory agreement

was reached with the group to the satisfaction of the nearby residents and it was generally found that a "quiet" talk to noisy neighbours resulted in a big reduction in the noise.

Noise is one of the most difficult problems to deal with as what might prove to be a nuisance to one person will not disturb someone else. The best method of one person to deal with a noise which he is finding personally objectionable is to seek a private injunction.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The following report is as submitted to the Ministry of Social Security. In addition in Table G is given a list of contraventions found and work carried out to comply with the provisions of the Act.

Of the 301 registered premises inspections were carried out on 55 premises during the year and 115 visits were made under the Act. 9 premises were registered during the year and 3 registrations were cancelled. All premises registered have been inspected.

TABLE A

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No.of premises newly reg'd during the year	No.of registered premises at end of year	No.of registered premises receiving inspections during the year.
Offices	4	92	17
Retail shops	3	162	27
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	9	2
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	1	38	9
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Totals:-	9	301	55

TABLE B

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

115

TABLE C

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Workpeople	No.of persons employed
Offices	695
Retail shops	891
Wholesale departments, warehouses	77
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	221
Total:-	1, 884
Total Males:-	805
Total Females:-	1,079

FACTORIES

For the purpose of inspection under the Factories Act 1961, factories are divided into those without power, for which the Local Health Authority is responsible for enforcing provision as to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors (Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6) and factories with power, for which the Authority is responsible for enforcing the provisions for satisfactory sanitary accommodation (Section 7).

The table below gives details of inspections carried out:-

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	28	4	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	319	19	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	9	3	-	-
Total:-	340	26	3	-

Three contraventions of the Sanitary Regulations were brought to our notice by the Factories Inspector and were remedied by informal action.

WATER SUPPLIES

Mains water is supplied throughout the district by the East Worcestershire Waterworks Co. There are in addition 54 wells in the district.

Samples are regularly taken by the Waterworks Co. of the mains water and this department received copies of the results, all of which have been satisfactory. In addition the department took 15 samples and these were satisfactory.

From time to time the department received complaints from the new residents who, I feel, find the harder Worcestershire water here in Redditch, has a different taste to the softer Welsh water they were used to in Birmingham. This gives rise to the complaints that there is something wrong with the water supply.

All the complaints were investigated and water analysis, both from the Chemical and Bacterial aspect, has always proved satisfactory. On occasions there seemed to be a build up of chlorine in water held in the pipes overnight and in this case the householders are advised to run off the water to waste first thing in the morning. The Waterworks Co. are introducing a system of super-chlorination and de-chlorination of water supplies which should eliminate this problem.

Samples of well water are taken periodically and after taking one such sample the residents did admit that they seemed to suffer from diarrhoea on occasions. The report of the Analyst ended "the water may also have a laxative effect!"

The list below is of mains completed by the Waterworks Co. in the Urban District during the year.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>		
Greenlands Estate	705 yds	6"	P.V.C.
	1,197 yds	4"	P.V.C.
	305 yds	3"	P.V.C.
	1,199 yds	2"	P.V.C.
Enfield Industrial Estate	590 yds	6"	P.V.C.
(Phase 1)	28 yds	4"	P.V.C.
	169 yds	3"	P.V.C.
Enfield Industrial Estate	154 yds	4"	P.V.C.
(phase 2)	31 yds	3"	P.V.C.
Park Farm Industrial Estate	153 yds	8"	P.V.C.
(Phase 1)	80 yds	6"	P.V.C.
	222 yds	4"	P.V.C.
Wirchill Drive	126 yds	2"	P.V.C.
Woodrow Local Centre	233 yds	4"	P.V.C.
	206 yds	3"	P.V.C.
Off Bromsgrove Road	127 yds	3"	P.V.C.
Washford Industrial Estate	521 yds	6"	P.V.C.
(Phase 2)			

Total:- 6,636 yds

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

220 visits were made in connection with infectious diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health. Housing conditions, contacts and their employment and, in appropriate cases, the means of isolation formed the subject of enquiries.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The following table summarises the action taken:-

Disinfection

Rooms fumigated:-	2
" sprayed:-	Nil
Articles "	10

Disinfestation

Rooms fumigated:-	40	
" sprayed:-		(this would include furniture
(or powdered)	11	& bedding)

In the case of personal infestation the persons involved are advised to attend the disinfestation centre at Bacchus Road, Birmingham.

RODENT CONTROL

Local authority premises such as refuse tips and sewage works are regularly inspected and treated when necessary. The department have received a number of complaints from the new estates but this is only to be expected as the farm and open land which was the rats habitat for many years has been disturbed and their shelter and food supplies gone, the rats have been turning towards the dwelling houses for shelter and food supply. The numbers have not been great and all treatments so far carried out have been successful.

The "super" Warfarin resistant rat does not yet appear to have reached Redditch and if it does then I foresee that, for a little time at least, we would have to fall back on using Zinc Phosphide, a most reliable poison, which must be handled with care, although the Ministry of Agriculture are always hopeful of producing a poison which will supplement Warfarin and experiments are being undertaken at present.

The table below gives an analysis of inspections and treatments:-

Inspections:

Number of domestic premises inspected	...	...	1,452
Number of business premises inspected	...	...	312
Number of local authority premises inspected	...	...	169
Number of farms inspected	...	...	13
Total number of premises inspected:-	...	...	<u>1,946</u>
" " " inspections, including re-inspections..			<u>2,501</u>

Infestations found:

Total number of infestations found:	421
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

Analysis of Infestations:

Number of infestations found (Rats)(Major)	...	...	7
Number of infestations found (Rats)(Minor)	...	...	<u>399</u>
Total number of infestations found (Rats)	...	...	406
Number of infestations found (Mice)(Major)	...	...	-
Number of infestations found (Mice)(Minor)	...	...	<u>15</u>
Total number of infestations found (Mice)	...	...	15

Treatment:

Number of first treatments	...	...	416
Total number of visits for treatment	...	...	1,351

Analysis of First Treatments:

Number of first treatments (Rats)(Major)	...	...	15
Number of first treatments (Rats)(Minor)	...	...	387
Number of first treatments (Mice)(Major)	...	...	-
Number of first treatments (Mice)(Minor)	...	...	<u>14</u>
Total number of treatments (Rats & Mice)	...	...	<u>416</u>

Sewer Maintenance Treatments:

Number of sewer maintenance treatments	...	...	2
Number of manholes baited	...	...	162

Bait base:- Pinhead Oatmeal & Fluoracedamide (3%)

MISCELLANEOUS

PET ANIMALS ACT

There are 5 shops registered under the Pet Animals Act in the Urban District. 7 inspections were made during the year.

BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

The Act requires all boarding establishments to be registered with the Local Authority.

There are two Dog Boarding Kennels in the District and 4 visits have been made.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT

There is only one Riding Establishment registered in the district and inspections are made together with a Veterinary Officer.

GAMING ACT

Under this Act proprietors of licensed premises, cafes and restaurants wishing to put in gaming machines, "one armed bandits", are required to have a permit to do so. Two applications were received during the year for installing such machines. For one permission was granted and for the other permission refused.

RAG FLOCK ACT

This Act came into force in 1951 and laid down a standard for filling materials used in upholstery. There are no premises subject to this Act in the district.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS' ACT

There are 5 Scrap Metal Dealers registered in the Urban District.

KNACKERS YARD

There is one Knacker's Yard in Redditch. These are premises in which animals are slaughtered because of illness or injury, or which receive carcasses of animals which have died elsewhere and the meat of which is unfit for human consumption and is usually sold as pet food. Under Regulations made last November it is a requirement that, except in special circumstances, all meat from a Knacker's Yard must be sterilised before leaving the yard. 15 inspections were made during the year.

AGRICULTURAL ACT

The Local Authority is responsible for inspections under this Act as to the adequacy of sanitary accommodation for farm workers. There are 101 farms within the district. 11 visits were made during the year; one contravention was found and remedied after informal action.

CARAVANS

There are no registered caravan sites in the Urban District.

SWIMMING BATHS

There is one public swimming bath in Redditch. A frequent check is kept on the quality of the water by the Baths Manager.

In addition 9 samples have been taken by the department for chemical analysis and chlorine content and have been found to be satisfactory.

A. Summerfield,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

